



MARYLAND TAMS JOURNAL

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MARYLAND TOKEN AND MEDAL SOCIETY, INC.

2018 SUMMER EDITION

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ORGANIZATIONS: Interested clubs, societies, museums, research groups, etc., may apply for membership.

DUES: Dues for Regular, Junior and Organizational members are \$15.00 per year. Life membership \$300.00.

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MD TAMS JOURNAL is published four times a year by the Maryland Token and Medal Society, Inc. Manuscripts should be addressed to the Editor. Opinions expressed by the author are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the MD TAMS, its Editor or its Officers. MD TAMS JOURNAL reserves the right to edit or reject any copy. Meetings are held in various coin shows and conventions throughout the year. Swap meets are also held by the club. See information on future meetings elsewhere in this issue.

The goals of the Maryland Token and Medal Society are to help stimulate and maintain interest in the collecting of medals, tokens and other related numismatics from the State of Maryland and other areas and to produce THE MARYLAND TAMS JOURNAL. It is strictly a non-profit organization. The journal is published quarterly in *Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter*.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION AND RESTRICTIONS:

MD TAMS does not guarantee advertising, but accepts copy in good faith. All advertising should be addressed to the Editor. Advertising copy shall be restricted to tokens, medals and other numismatics as well as allied numismatic material, publications and accessories related thereto. All advertisers must supply their own cuts and / or artwork.

RATES:

SIZE	1 ISSUE	4 ISSUES
1 page	\$ 16.00	\$ 56.00
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1/4 page	\$ 8.00	\$ 28.00
1/8 page	\$ 4.00	\$ 14.00
Business card	\$ 3.00	\$ 10.00



CLASSIFIED ADS:

Members may place a free 25 word ad. For ads in excess of 25 words, a rate of 10 cents per word will apply.

DEADLINES:

Issue	Deadline	Issue Date
Spring	February 15 th	March 21 st
Summer	May 15 th	June 21 st
Fall	August 15 th	September 21 st
Winter	November 15 th	December 21 st

Coming Events

Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo

June 23, 2018 Baltimore, MD

Catonsville Coin Club Show

Aug 5, 2018 10-4

Catonsville, MD

Legacy Coins and Currency

Holiday Inn Timonium

9615 Deereco Rd, Lutherville -Timonium, MD

Aug 18, 2018 9-4

SWAP MEET

Saturday 13 October 2018

Grace United Methodist Church Noon-3pm

PLEASE COME!

Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo

October 27, 2018 Baltimore, MD

Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo

Feb 2, 2019 Baltimore, MD



The President's Message

There is an old saying that time flies when you are having fun. This must apply to the Maryland Token and Medal Society as next year (2019) we will mark forty years of supporting the collectors of Maryland tokens and medals. I have not been involved for all of those years but for me the time has flown by and I certainly have fun as part of this fine organization. I have learned a lot and thankfully this continues. I have met some really nice folks who share a common interest in Maryland tokens and medals. We have a great organization that continues its stated mission of educating interested historians and collectors alike about our chosen field of interest. MD TAMS has produced many references, both large and small and a superb Journal; all of which help with our mission. Many folks are responsible for our success and naming these folks would take way too long. Suffice it to say that we should be very thankful for the effort started almost forty years ago by our founding and charter members and thanks to all who are keeping our tradition going so well. Job well done.

We want to keep MD TAMS going strong so please recruit a new member, write an article, bring some show and tell to a regular meeting, attend a Swap Meet, setup a special meeting at a location other than the convention center, etc. Every bit of your support helps. We want the fun to continue for at least another forty years. The hobby will certainly be better off for if we do.

Ed Craig





FROM YOUR EDITOR

Hello Fellow Members

Finally had my surgery. It came out great. Went to the Spring meeting and enjoyed getting out. The journal is coming along great. Thanks to all you have sent in articles. Everyone has to get involved. This is your journal. Make sure you send in your updated information (address & email) to the editor and treasurer. You won't get your journal if the information is incorrect. Have you paid your dues? They were due 3/31/18.

Jane



**KNEE SURGERY
COMPLETED**



TREASURER REPORT

by Bill Stratmeyer

Bank Statement BB&T 02/28/2018

Checking last four numbers: 9425	\$ 1,220.74
Checking last four numbers: 5566	\$ 244.51
Checking	\$ 1,465.25
Bus. CD last four numbers: 4204	\$ 2,668.69
Bus. CD last four numbers 4352	\$ 4,173.44
Bus. CD last four numbers 3718	\$ 3,163.70
CDs	\$10,005.83

TOKEN-TRIVIA

WHEN WAS THE
S.S. JOHN W. BROWN
LAUNCHED?



ANSWER pg. 19

**I am green with envy !
Such great articles
coming in - keep it up !!**





NOW THE MINUTES

Secretary - Bryce Doxzon - March 24, 2018

The March 24, 2018 meeting of the Maryland Token & Medal Society was called to order at 11:05 A.M. by president Ed Craig with 13 members and no guests in attendance. Treasurer Bill Stratemeyer read a limited treasury report. Minutes of the November 11, 2017 meeting were previously published. Correspondence included recently received issues of ANA's The Numismatist. Editor Jane Sears said she has some journal articles but can always use more. She is willing to help writers get their articles into publication. Ed Craig reminded members that dues are now due for the new membership cycle (April 2018 – March 2019).

OLD BUSINESS: Ed Craig spoke about Bill Stratemeyer's months-long effort to get MD TAMS tax-exempt designation renewed. Bill S. told of contacting State Senator Klausmeier's office and getting speedy service on the renewal. He also said he will file our state tax forms very soon.

NEW BUSINESS: Ed Craig proposed issuing a set of poker chips to commemorate MD TAMS 40th anniversary in 2019.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ed Craig reminded members about the next swap meet (May 12) and the next regular meeting (June 23). Jane Sears reported that Bill Miller attended the Canning & Seafood Show in East New Market (on February 18) and sold some Moses Moore hooks there. An additional Moore hook has been sold on line.

SHOW-AND- TELL: Jane Sears displayed and had for sale a Hutzler's medal mounted on a card. Ed Craig showed a few challenge coins. Carl Neeley showed a newspaper article about missing in-action soldier Walter Duke, which he will fashion into a journal article. Jim Shipley displayed a wooden nickel good-for from the Sheldon Lounge.

The meeting broke at 11:20 A.M. for the auction.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryce Doxzon, Secretary

Notes from the Eastern Shore

Bill Miller R-109

A Blast from the Past

Have you ever wondered how certain Eastern Shore cannery tokens seem to turn up all over the place, especially on Ebay? Recently I purchased 7 tokens and a letter that may help shed a little light on some of those tokens.

The letter (The Rare Kirby – Dewitt – Lane Canning Company Tokens) was from a man named C. E. Jensen, who appeared to have been an active token collector in the late 1960s – early 1970s. As he had run in a couple of hobby publications can be found by searching the *Newman Numismatic Portal*. In the letter, Mr. Jensen offered one token for trade or sale and 2 other tokens for sale only. The token he obviously had a large number was the Kirby Canning Co., listed in the *Maryland Merchant Tokens* catalog (Trappe 905-K5-1a). It is a very common incused brass token. Along with this token were the 2 others available for sale: the Kirby Canning Co. ½ Bkt. (Trappe 905-K5-1/2a) and a Dewitt Lane & Company, 1 Bkt. Token (Goldshoro 350-5b counterstamped “A”). It seems that he had fewer of these, explaining why they were for sale only.

The letter explains a bit about the histories of the Kirby and Dewitt & Lane companies, as well as the involvement of “a fellow named Adams”, explaining the “A” counterstamp on the Dewitt & Lane tokens. I cannot dispute the histories and I’m sure some others can provide more information the canneries of Trappe, MD, but there are some other observations from Mr. Jensen that I find more interesting.

Jensen describes the tokens as “So-Called Plantation Tokens” from “Trappe, Maryland”, which of course, they are not. He speculated that they were pickers checks, for picking tomatoes, peaches, apples, carrots, and pears, and interpreting the “BKT” as “Basket”. They were in fact used exclusively in tomato canneries and were given to women (not men) when they had peeled a hucket of tomatoes, so the BKT stands for “Bucket”. Jensen also did not know the Dewitt & Lane Company was from Goldshoro, MD. It would be understandable for person not from the area to make these mistakes and misinterpret the meaning and purpose of the tokens. The collecting of cannery tokens was still in its infancy at the time the letter was written and these details can be confusing.

Mr. Jensen was looking to for quantities of different types of tokens in trade so one can imagine that someone with a hoard of tokens would be willing to swap what they had for some of the Kirby tokens. It’s interesting that he never says how he got the tokens, just that he “obtained a large hoard of some of these rare (!) canning company tokens”. He also invited dealers to inquire, so gradually the

tokens were dispersed throughout the country. At the bottom of the letter Jensen had written, "Enclosed find your 50 mixed Maryland Canning tokens", which leads me to believe that he had obtained more varieties of canning tokens (maybe from the Phillips board?). Also, I think Mr. Jensen may have had something to do with several different cannery tokens being etched with information pertaining to their origin (hopefully more on this in a later article).

So, how common are they? At the time I wrote this article there were at least a dozen auctions on Ebay running with Kirby tokens, ranging from \$2.50 to \$17.64 (no bidders), while only three auctions feature the Dewitt & Lane. The 7 tokens I got along with this letter are shown: 2 of the Kirby tokens along with 5 Phillips & UCC tokens.



Fifty years later we know so much more about canning tokens, thanks to MD TAMS, David Schenkman's *Maryland Merchant Token* catalog and lots of dedicated collectors who are interested in researching the history of these fascinating bits of brass and aluminum.



This letter is an interesting "blast from the past" that helps to fill in a little more the story of our hobby.

THE RARE KIRBY & DEWITT & LANE
CANNING COMPANY TOKENS
(TRAPPEE, MARYLAND)
80- CALLED PLANTATION TOKENS

It started off as just the Kirby Canning Co. They operated out of Trappee, Maryland (circa 1910). They not only canned the fruits and vegetables but also grew them. Due to convenience sake they issued some tokens to be used by the men in the fields. Two types were issued, a I BASKET and a 1/2 BASKET. The I BASKET type is circular approx. nickel size with K.C.CO., I BKT. on the obverse the reverse is plain. The 1/2 BASKET type is octagonal (8 sided) about 21mm with K.C.CO., 1/2 BKT. on obverse the reverse is plain. BOTH TOKENS ARE BRASS.

These tokens were given the tomato, peach, apple, carrot and pear pickers when they carried in a basket of fruit or vegetables. In turn at the end of the day they turned in the tokens and were paid each day in cash.

It seems Kirby didn't make much of a go of it and got into some financial difficulties. So he sold a controlling interest of the company to a fellow by the name of Adams. Adams seemed to get caught up too so he sold out to the Dewitt & Lane Canning Co. and bought a canning co. of his own. But Adams still kept a hand in the works of the newly formed Kirby - Dewitt - Lane Canning Co. The Dewitt & Lane Co. issued a I basket token (circa 1916). It was struck in brass, octagonal and about 19mm. Dewitt & Lane Co. is stamped on the obverse, I BKT on the reverse.

Well, it seems the newly formed Dewitt & Lane Co. met disaster too. The year is now 1929, the year of the great stock crash, the beginning of the greatest depression in history. Adams lost financial help to try to get the floundering Dewitt & Lane back on its feet again, but to no avail. Everything was wiped out by 1930. Adams didn't actually issue any tokens, what he did was, counterstamped with an "A" the Dewitt & Lane I BASKET token. He did this to save costs on issuing new tokens.

It seemed that the only thing that the Kirby- Dewitt & Lane Canning Co. produced was failure. The only memory of these companies are their tokens.

Well, it so happens that I obtained a large hoard of some of these rare canning company tokens, which I am offering for resale or trade. What do you have for trade? I especially need quantities of transportation, parking, amusement, trade (merchant), saloon, poolroom, military, Canadian, Bank tokens (COUSON), metal coal company scrip, etc.

I have the Kirby Canning Co., I Basket token for 50¢ (each), 3 diff. (Kirby I BKT., 1/2 BKT., & the Dewitt & Lane token) for 1.25.

NOTE: The set of 3 diff. are for sale ONLY and not for trade. The only token for trade is the Kirby I BKT. token.

TRADE ALLOWANCES

Transportation, parking and amusement tokens, common ones, worth 5¢ to me. Trade, saloon, poolroom, etc. (similar type tokens like mentioned above). Will trade these types on a token for token basis. But they must be fully identifiable (must have complete address, city & state & vendors name).

OTHER TOKENS & MEDALS WANTED IN TRADES WHAT HAVE YOU?

I'm sure we can work out some kind of a trade - JUST WRITE.

DEALERS INQUIRIES INVITED

Enclosed you find 50
Hild Maryland Canning
Tokens - (R)

ANOTHER HARFORD COUNTY CANNER IDENTIFIED – THOMAS J. GAILEY

Bernie Bodt R. 282

The following was compiled by Mrs. Yarrison who currently lives in the ancestral home (built 1865) of Thomas J. Gailey. This canner and his son operated a cannery near Jarrettsville, MD.

The article reads as follows:

Mr. Clarence Burton had been a friend of Windsor Gailey, son of Thomas J. Gailey (1780-1953). .the owner of our farm house. When we moved here in 1965 we became acquainted with Windsor and his family. Windsor died the following year, but Mr. Burton befriended us and visited frequently. He told us he and Windsor worked on T. J. G's tomato farm and cannery. Workers were given brass tokens such as these for their labor and could redeem them at local stores. Mr. Burton brought a small cloth bag which held perhaps a dozen tokens and gave them to our young daughter. Unwisely, we allowed her to play with them and eventually these three* were the only survivors. Dr. Burton told us the cannery was at the bottom of the hill behind our house where the pond is now located. Then there was no pond, but just the stream (which is part of the head waters of Winters Run). After T. J. Gailey died, Dr. Mary Louise Small purchased the house and had the pond built for fire protection. We have no evidence of the cannery except these three tokens and Mr. Burton's words. He had stood on our back hill, pointed to the willow trees (no longer standing) beside the stream and indicated that was the location of the cannery. Mr. Burton ran the old store in Jarrettsville and had also been the postmaster. He lived diagonally across from the Methodist Church on W. Jarrettsville Road, where Dr. Edward Kelly now has his dental practice.

*Although the article states "three survivors", however, two are duplicates of the (b) below.



The tokens are described as:

- a) T. J. G. / & SON

(blank)

brass, square, 19mm

- b) T. J. G. / & SON / 1⁰⁰

(blank)

brass, octagon, 23mm

Although this cannery was never listed in any industry directories, with this article it is believed this is a strong attribution. This now brings the number of canners in Harford County to more than 720.

This article will be included in the soon to be published book on the History of Jarrettsville authored by Doug Washburn.

Project Liberty Ship

S. S. JOHN W. BROWN

by Jane Sears LM12



During the early years of World War II enemy mine fields and aerial and U-boat attacks seriously crippled the Allied cause by sinking a huge number of merchant ships carrying vital military equipment, supplies, and troops. In order to build ships faster than the enemy could sink them, the United States under the leadership of President Franklin D. Roosevelt organized an emergency shipbuilding program which between 1941 and 1945 succeeded in producing over 2700 Liberty ships, "the cargo-carrying key to victory." The first Liberty ship, the S. S. PATRICK HENRY, was launched at the Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyard in Baltimore on September 27, 1941. By the time the program ended in 1945, eighteen shipyards on the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf coasts had participated in the unprecedented effort.

The Liberty ship design was based on British plans modified to conform to American practices and to make full use of mass production methods. The ship is 441 feet 6 inches in length, has a beam of 56 feet 10 3/4 inches, a draft of 27 feet 9 3/4 inches, and can hold about 8500 long tons of cargo, enough to fill three hundred railroad boxcars. Power comes from a triple expansion steam engine developing 2500 horsepower at 76 rpm for a top speed of 11 knots. Two oil fired boilers generate steam at 220 psi and 450 degrees F.

About 2500 Liberty ships of the over 2700 built survived the War. Now, however, over forty-five years later, only two intact examples remain. One, the JEREMIAH O'BRIEN, has been fully restored and is open to the public in San Francisco. The other, the JOHN W. BROWN, is now ready to become her east coast counterpart. These two vessels stand as monuments to the men and women who built, sailed, and defended the United States' merchant fleet in World War II and serve as reminders of the diligence, devotion, dedication, and patriotism that have preserved our nation and the cause of freedom.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE S. S. JOHN W. BROWN



May 1, 1941 The United States Maritime Commission contracted with Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyard in Baltimore to build twelve Liberty ships, among them Hull 312.



July 28, 1942 The keel of Hull 312 was laid in Way 12 at the Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyard.



September 7, 1942 (Labor Day) Named for John W. Brown, a well-known labor leader, Hull 312 was launched at 12:15 p.m.



September 29, 1942 The S. S. JOHN W. BROWN began her maiden voyage on leaving Baltimore for New York to load tanks, Jeeps, trucks, ammunition, etc. to take to the Persian Gulf for Russian aid under the Lend-lease Act.



June 1943 The BROWN was converted to a limited capacity troopship accommodating up to 500 troops or POWs in addition to cargo.



1943-1945 The BROWN made five voyages between the United States and ports in North Africa and Italy and participated in the Invasion of Southern France. Her last two wartime voyages were to Belgium and France. On these trips she carried GIs home to the United States.



1945-1946 The BROWN made five peacetime voyages to France, Italy, Denmark, Germany, and England. On the first two she carried troops home.



1946-1982 On loan by the Maritime Commission to the Board of Education of the City of New York, the BROWN served as a schoolship preparing high school students for seagoing careers.



May 1978 Project Liberty Ship was organized in New York to preserve the BROWN as a museum and memorial.



July 31, 1983 The BROWN joined the National Defense Reserve Fleet in the James River in Virginia.



March 1, 1985 The BROWN was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



January 28, 1988 Unable to find a berth for the BROWN in New York, Project Liberty Ship looked into possibilities in Baltimore.



August 13, 1988 Given permission by the Maryland Port Administration to berth at Pier 1 Clinton Street, the BROWN under tow received an enthusiastic welcome on arriving in Baltimore.



September 5, 1988 The S. S. JOHN W. BROWN was rededicated as a memorial museum at ceremonies at the Dundalk Marine Terminal.



May 5, 1989 Maryland Governor William Donald Schaefer signed State Senator Joe Miedkusiewski's bill granting Project Liberty Ship \$225,000 in matching funds.



May 23, 1990 Maritime Administrator Captain Warren Leback lighted off the starboard boiler at Maritime Day ceremonies aboard the ship.



November 16, 1990 President George Bush signed the Federal Maritime Authorization Act containing provisions by Congresswoman Helen Deloach Bentley that generate funds for the BROWN and allow her to carry passengers.



July 4, 1991 A dock trial party was held to demonstrate the now operational main engine.



August 24, 1991 Steaming under her own power for the first time since November 1946, the BROWN successfully completed trials in the Chesapeake Bay.



September 21 and 22, 1991 The S. S. JOHN W. BROWN carried about 600 members and guests each day on her inaugural week-end cruises.



Pin

Red & dark blue on white, 60 mm, round



A Memorial Museum Ship Dedicated To The Men and Women Who Built, Sailed, and Defended The World War II Liberty Fleet

Project Liberty Ship, a non-profit tax exempt volunteer organization, grew out of a seminar sponsored by the National Maritime Historical Society in May 1978 to discuss the preservation of the Liberty ship S. S. John W. Brown, which at the time was a schoolship in New York City. As a result of the seminar, Project Liberty Ship was organized to restore and reactivate the JOHN W. BROWN as a maritime museum and as a memorial to the shipyard workers, merchant mariners, and U. S. Navy Armed Guard crews who built, sailed, and defended Liberty ships during World War II. Since 1978 Project Liberty Ship has grown to number about three thousand members nationwide and in several foreign countries.

Members within driving distance of Baltimore have contributed over 100,000 hours of volunteer labor to return the BROWN to steaming condition, and on trials in August 1991 she sailed under her own power for the first time since her seagoing career ended in November 1946. On September 21, 1991, the members of Project Liberty Ship fulfilled one of their dreams when they steamed the JOHN W. BROWN on her "Matron Voyage." With about six hundred passengers aboard for the memorable and historic six-hour trip, the BROWN sailed from Baltimore to a point a little south of Annapolis in the Chesapeake Bay and then returned home. This achievement, the culmination of three years of unrelenting work by the Baltimore volunteers, does not mean that Project Liberty Ship has completed its mission. Many volunteers will still be needed to maintain the ship, to complete the far from finished work of restoration, and to raise money to support the work. When the ship is opened to the public on a regular schedule, additional volunteers will be needed to serve as guides, help in the Ship's Store, work in the office, create exhibits, oversee the library and archives, arrange cruises, etc. Thus Project Liberty Ship invites men and women who are interested - or who think they might become interested - to join up, using the form at the end of this brochure. Members receive the Project newsletter, *The Ugly Duckling*, the Ship's Store catalogues, and additional mailings to keep them informed about cruises, the annual bull roast in the Spring, the Fourth of July party, the annual holiday party in the late Fall, and other special events held through the year.

Project Liberty Ship

Box 25846 • Highlandtown Station • Baltimore, Maryland 21224-0846

Enroll me as a member of Project Liberty Ship:

☐ Regular \$25 ☐ Patron \$100 ☐ Life \$500

I can not join at this time, but I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ toward the preservation of the S.S. JOHN W. BROWN as a World War II memorial museum.

I want to become a volunteer (membership in Project Liberty Ship is necessary in order to work aboard the ship).

My area of interest is _____

Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ Apt. No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make your check payable to Project Liberty Ship, Inc.

DEGAUSSING SYSTEM

These commemorative coins are struck from the original degaussing coils of the S. S. JOHN W. BROWN. This system was installed in World War II ships to defend them against magnetic mines often encountered in un-swept areas of the sea lanes prior to entering ports.

These coils ran the length of the ship and port to starboard, protecting the entire ship by limiting the magnetic signature of the steel hull. Electrical current, provided by the ship's generators, passed through the coils. The system would be adjusted to the required polarity and amperes according to the ship's heading in the earth's magnetic field.

The correct current of the degaussing system reduce the signature of the hull thus foiling the magnetic mines. Determining incorrect polarity and amperes could result in serious damage or loss of the ship, when encountering the magnetic mines. (Revised 01/2008)



Obverse



Reverse

Obverse: S. S. JOHN W. BROWN / (ship) / LAUNCHED SEPT. 7, 1942 / BETHLEHEM-FAIRFIELD / SHIPYARD / BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Reverse: COIN STRUCK FROM COPPER REMOVED FROM S. S. JOHN W. BROWN (3 star) / PROJECT LIBERTY SHIP / TO / HONOR / THOSE WHO / BUILT, SAILED, / AND DEFENDED / THE WORLD WAR II / LIBERTY FLEET / 1941-1945

39mm, round, copper

Office: Project Liberty Ship

Box 25846

Highlandtown Station

Baltimore, Maryland 21224-0846

410-661-1550

Ship address: 2250-2374 S. Clifton St, Baltimore, MD 21224

Phone: (410) 558-0646

My cousin served on the S. S. John W. Brown and told me many interesting stories about the ship. This article from the museum brochure and insert that came with the medal. Russ was told there were no more coins available.



Richard Kaminski wrote about the medal and stamp in Vol. XV No. 4 Whole No. 62 MD TAMS Journal page 10.

A NEW BALTIMORE TOKEN

"JOHN TJARKS" — LIKELY ATTRIBUTION:

Terry Hess & Ed Craig

Terry Hess, one of our active members, often finds some good, new Maryland and Baltimore material. His most recent is a heretofore unidentified token. We may now have a very likely attribution. This is the token in question:



Obv: JOHN TJARKS / 5 /
Rev: Blank
Br Oc 23mm (22.7mm)

A look into Baltimore history finds a "John Tjarks". Baltimore historically has been populated by numerous immigrants of German ancestry. This is a very well known and well documented fact. The following is an excerpt from the history of the Zion Church in Baltimore:

"ZION CHURCH AND WORLD WAR I

Waves of immigrants from Germany poured into Baltimore. The founding of the German Empire in Europe had increased the racial consciousness of the Germans in America. At the turn of the century there were more than thirty congregations in Baltimore which had Sunday services in German. When the German immigration subsided somewhat during the first decade of this century, many German churches readily introduced English services, which gradually supplanted the German altogether.

German-Americanism, as we call this phenomenon of two generations ago, puzzled many observers. Most of these Germans in Baltimore were law-abiding citizens, and nobody actually questioned their loyalty. At the same time, however, they seemed to take such an alert interest in their old homeland that unknowingly they created the impression of being Germans first and Americans only second. Zion Church had been German since its inception. Nowhere in Baltimore was an organization to be found where the spirit and the outer life were more genuinely patterned in the Teutonic style than in the old church on City Hall Plaza. Pastor Hermann's name appeared on the roll of most of the German societies. He was a much-sought-after speaker at rallies of the German-Americans. **Members of the church were to be found everywhere in the activities of Baltimore's Germanism. John Tjarks, the prosperous hotel owner and faithful son of Zion, for ten years headed the Independent Citizens' Union, a group of German societies that constituted a potent political power in Baltimore.**

When the World War broke out in Europe in August 1914, there was no question where the sympathies

of the German-Americans stood. The awareness that the motherland was engaged in a life-or-death struggle at once prompted them to prove by acts of charity their attachment to the Old Country, where fathers and brothers were fighting for the Fatherland. Pastor Julius Hofmann, who was active in the National German-American Alliance, placed the Zion Parish House at the disposal of the German-Austrian Red Cross Aid Society. Prior to 1917, almost a million dollars was collected for German and Austrian war widows and orphans, the congregation of Zion having contributed a considerable share of this amount. In the Adlersaal of the Parish House a German eagle was "nailed," each nail bringing a contribution for the war victims in the Old Country.

As you can see, John was very active. He was proud of his German heritage but very much also a proud American. He kept close ties with the old country while being a very involved and active Baltimore citizen and businessman. There are several historical references that show what he was up to in Baltimore.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE GERMAN HISTORICAL PROFILE OF MR. TJARKS:

"John Gerhard Tjarks (2-5-1865 to 9-4-1943)"

Mr. Tjarks was born at Marz near Essen. His father died when John was six and the family moved to Oldenburg. He received his education there and entered an apprenticeship with a commercial house at Wilhelmshaven. He arrived in Baltimore in 1882.

He worked on a farm in Baltimore County, was employed as shipping clerk and even drove horse-drawn street cars until he became interested in the restaurant business. By the age of twenty one, he had opened his own restaurant on Frederick Road. After being in the U.S. for five years, he was granted his citizenship papers. He leased and managed a well-known, at the time, Darley Park on Harford Road near 25th Street and owned the Orchestration Hall of West Lexington. In 1907 he purchased the Raleigh Hotel at Fayette and Holliday Streets, which he renamed 'Armistead Hotel', in honor of the defender of Fort McHenry. He helped found the Independent Citizens Union of Maryland, which was the central organization of all German-American Societies, which was voluntarily dissolved in the beginning of WWI. He was instrumental in the founding of the Julius Hofmann Memorial Fund that was founded to encourage the study of the German language in the Baltimore City public schools. He was president of the trustees until his death.

He was a Mason, a member of the [German Society](#), the [General German Aged Home](#), and the [General German Orphan Home](#). He founded the Hotelman's Association of Baltimore. He was a faithful member of [Zion Church](#) and purchased and donated the collection of theological works in the Hofmann Memorial Library at Zion. He helped finance the Parish House at Zion for the four week lodging of soldiers and sailors in the fall of 1942."

In the 05 February 1923 issue of the New York Times, under the byline "GERMAN SINGERS ALMOST STRANDED; John Tjarks, Hotel Owner, Saves Them From Financial Wreck in Baltimore." they note that "The financial ship of the German Wagner Opera Company proved to be a veritable "Flying Dutchman" so far as portending storms was concerned during the opening performances in this city of its American tour [Baltimore]. The receipts for the five productions were about 2,032,000,000 marks, or some \$38,000. According to a Mr. F. O. Evers in an obituary of Mr. Tjarks, the company opened its national tour in Baltimore at the Lyric Theater with a performance of "Meistersinger". It was through the financial and business support from Mr. Tjarks that the group was able to begin and continue its schedule of performances in America.

An article in the Baltimore Sunpapers on Wednesday 17 May 1911 notes that there are a large number of tourists from Baltimore scheduled to depart Pier 9 at Locust Point in Baltimore aboard the Brandenburg, a steamer from the North German Lloyd line headed to Bremen, Germany. The passenger list shows that John Tjarks was going to visit his home of birth.

He was always very supportive of people in Germany. He was a founder and Treasurer of the National German American Alliance that was founded in Philadelphia on 6 October 1901. World War I led to the voluntary dissolution of the Alliance but not before over one million US dollars passed from Mr. Tjarks to the Red Cross of Germany and Austria-Hungary during the years before the war to help people in need. The loyalty, sincerity and integrity of Mr. Tjarks was never in doubt or questioned. According to F. O. Evers, he was recognized early-on for his leadership ability. In 1900 he made an appeal that led to the organization of the Independent Citizen's Union of Maryland. This was the central organization of all German-American societies in Baltimore. Each society provided delegates to support the organization which was very active in civic and political movements. He married Christine Krutz of Baltimore who was originally from Bavaria, Germany. They had a daughter Miss Katherine Tjarks. He died in Baltimore on 4 September 1943.

Now back to the token. We cannot say for sure where and for what it was used. Mr. Tjarks managed and owned several Baltimore business's as we saw above. It seems more likely that the token would have been used at his restaurant on Frederick Rd. or at Darley Park rather than at the Raleigh/Armistead Hotel. I can imagine that Darley Park, which was the location of a Baltimore brewery had both a bar and beer garden and that the token might have been in use there. This is just an educated guess based on the type of business and the type/style of token. With so many Baltimore business's to choose from, we may never know where or how Mr. Tjarks used this token. If you have any knowledge on the subject, please let us know.

Editor's Note:

06 Sept 1943 The Sun

TJARKS – Suddenly, on September 4, 1943, **JOHN**, aged 78 years. Beloved husband of the late Christine Tjarks. Friends may call at his home, 5720 Richdale Road, Mount Washington, until Tuesday morning. Body will lie in state at Zion Church, Gay Street above Lexington, from 12 till 2 o'clock. Funeral services at 2 P. M. Tuesday. Interment in Woodlawn Cemetery.

REMEMBER at this upcoming June meeting Literary Awards will be given out. Try to attend. Here is the list of articles and authors for the journal 2017 issues.



A VERNON TAYLOR LITERARY AWARDS



Spring 2017

- 8 - Harford County Civil War Dog Tag - Jane Sears
- 12 - Curmine, Lamsin & Co. Brass Shell Card Token - Russ Sears
- 14 - Tomatoes and Gravel - Bernie Boett
- 16 - Chapter Pennies of the Prince Hall Mason - Frank Pugliese
- 18 - MGM National Harbor - John R. Hamstead

Summer 2017

- 6 - The Loyola College in Maryland - Andrew White Medal - Russ Sears
- 7 - Mercantile Safe Deposit and Trust Company - Richard D. Ponder
- 8 - A Maryland 375th Anniversary Medal - Carl Neely
- 9 - Baltimore County Game & Fish Protective Association, Inc. - Lenny Cloero
- 10 - 75th Anniversary of the Defense of Baltimore - Jane Sears
- 21 - Russ's Last Thoughts

- 23 - H. D. Nimmaman Co. - Jane Sears
- 24 - Johnson's Garden Bucks - Jane Sears

Fall 2017

- 5 - The Railroad Watch Inspector - Russ Sears
- 6 - The Roland Park Homestead Token - Russ Sears
- 8 - Re-thinking the James Cole Store Card and the Baltimore Token - Bill Miller
- 10 - 75th Anniversary Battle of North Point - Jane Sears
- 11 - S. F. Cody - Jane Sears
- 17 - Ft. McHenry Models - Jane Sears
- 18 - Advertising on Poker Chips - Jane Sears

Winter 2017

- 7 - Baltimore Silversmith & Silverplaters 1799-1979 - W. Wallace Stone
- 11 - Silversmiths Of Baltimore - Additional Silversmiths before 1799 - Jane Sears
- 13 - The Backward Dollar Sign Tokens of Maryland - Bill Miller (R-109)

See who will win the A Vernon Taylor Literary Awards? Attend the annual meeting on June 23 at the Baltimore Convention Center

MD TAMS CLASSIFIED

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8/17

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BY Joe Burford MD TAMS 241

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Token-Trivia Answer

SEPT. 7, 1942



THE PERFECT RECIPE
TO A GOOD JOURNAL
IS A SUPPLY OF
ARTICLES!



BRYCE DOXZON

Bryce is currently in Pittsburgh, PA for the PAN Show. He is both an exhibitor and exhibit judge at the show. Because of this trip, he will miss our May Swap Meet. I guess that his PAN volunteer efforts are a good enough excuse for missing the Swap Meet !!! :-)>

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

THOMAS BETSOCK



SHINE ON



MD TAMS SWAP

MEMBERS HAVING TABLES: 5

MEMBERS ATTENDING: 7

No Guest today

Ed Craig, Jane Sears, Bill Miller, Joe Burford
Bill Stratemeyer, Rich Eckhardt,
and Bernie Bodt

MAY 12

Grace United Methodist Church - 5407 N. Charles St. –
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